

DOCUMENT 220C (18)

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Br. Ex. 153

SUMMARY OF CONVERSATIONS
MEMORANDUM PREPARED IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE

(WASHINGTON,) MAY 19, 1942.

ACCOUNT OF INFORMAL CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
UNITED STATES AND THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN, 1941.

Excerpts.

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" The equilibrium in the Far East which had been established by the Washington Conference treaties of 1921-1922 became seriously disturbed by the setting up by forceful means in a part of China of a regime under Japanese control under the name of 'Manchukuo'. This control over Manchuria has been marked by the carrying out of a policy of discrimination which has resulted in forcing out American and other foreign interests.

"During the years that followed, Japan went steadily forward in her preparations for expansion by force of arms. In December 1934, she gave notice of her intention to terminate the naval treaty of February 6, 1922. She then proceeded with intensified construction of military and naval armaments, at the same time undertaking, from time to time, limited actions directed toward an extension of her domination over China and involving disregard and destruction of the lawful rights and interests of other countries, including the United States.

"In July 1937, the armed forces of Japan embarked upon large-scale military operations against China. Invading forces of more than a million men occupied large areas along the seaboard and in the central provinces. In these areas there were set up puppet regimes which instituted systems of controls and monopolies discriminatory in favor of the interests of the invading country.

"It has been clear throughout that Japan has been actuated from the start by broad and ambitious plans for establishing herself in a dominant position in the entire region of the Western Pacific. Her leaders have openly declared their determination to achieve and maintain that position by force of arms and thus to make themselves masters of an area containing almost one-half of the entire population of the world. As a consequence, they would have arbitrary control of the sea and trade routes in that region.

"Previous experience and current developments indicate that the proposed 'new order' in the Pacific area means, politically, domination by one country. It means, economically, employment of the resources of the area concerned for the benefit of that country and to the ultimate impoverishment of other parts of the area and exclusion of the / interests

interests of other countries. It means, socially, the destruction of personal liberties and the reduction of the conquered peoples to the role of inferiors.

"It should be manifest to every person that such a program for the subjugation and ruthless exploitation by one country of nearly one-half of the population of the world is a matter of immense significance, importance and concern to every other nation wherever located.

"Notwithstanding the course which Japan has followed during recent years, this Government has made repeated efforts to persuade the Japanese Government that her best interests lie in the development of friendly relations with the United States and with other countries which believe in orderly and peaceful processes among nations. We have at no time made any threats."

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Foreign Relations II, p. 525 at
pp. 329-330

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支(四)一五三

談話大略

國務省外ニテ準備セル覚書

(ワシントン)一九四三年(昭和十七年)五月九日

一九四一年(昭和十六年)合衆國政府及日本政府トノ間
行ハル非公式會談ノ説明據年

「……一九二一年カウ一九二二年(大正十一年—大正十二年)ノワシントン
會議條約ニ依リ制定セル極東ニ於ケル均衡ハ滿洲國ト稱スル
政權ガ日本ニ管理ナニ中國(一部ニ強引ニ樹立セル)ト係リ
非常ニ侵害セルニ至ルヲデアル。此ノ滿洲國ニ管理ハ差別待遇
政策ヲ實施シタコトガ注目スベキ事デアリ。其ノ結果米國及其他
諸外國ノ權益ヲ排斥スルニ至ルヲデアル。

其ノ後 數年間日本ハ武力ニヨル發展ノ爲着々トシテ
準備ヲ進メラセタデアル。一九三四年(昭和九年)十二月日本ハ
一九二二年(大正十一年)二月六日ノ海軍條約ヲ打切ル旨通
告シタ。

ソレカラ日本ハ陸海軍軍備擴張ニ取リ掛ケタデアルが、同時ニ
中國ニ於ケル勢力擴張ノ方向ハ同ツテ屢々限定セル行動ニ出
サタ。又アメリカヲモ含ム諸外國ノ正當ナル權益ハ無視及
破壊ニ没頭シテセタデアル。

「一九三七年(昭和十二年)七月、日本軍ハ中國ニ對シテ廣範
圍ニ亘ル軍事作戰ニ従リセシタ。百萬以上ノ侵入部隊ガ
中國ノ海岸地及ビ中部諸省ノ廣ク地域ヲ占領シタ。

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是等ノ地ニハ侵入國ノ利益ニ有利ナシ且別ノ統制及獨
占制度ヲ敷ク傀儡政權ヲ樹立セリ。

「最初ヨリ日本ガ西太平洋全地域ニ於テ有力ナル地位ヲ占
トスルニ大且野心滿々タル計畫ニ驅ラレタルトイフ事ハ首
尾一貫シテ明カデアリ。日本ノ指導者達ハ此力ニ依リ此
地位ヲ獲得シ之ヲ維持シテ以テ世界全人口ノ殆ド半分ヲ
含ム地域ノ支配者ニナルトイフ決意ヲハキリ言明シタデアリ。
其ノ結果彼等ハ其ノ地域ニ於ケル海路及商業路ニ對シテ
任意ノ支配權ヲ得ルコトニナルデアリ。

「前ノ經驗及現今ノ發展ハ太平洋地域ニ於ケル所謂
新秩序トハ政治的ニ云フ。一語ニヨリ統治ヲ意味スルトイフ
コトヲ明ホスルモデアリ。經濟的ニハ該地域ニ於ケル資源ヲ
日本ノ利益ノ爲ニ使用スル事及該地域ノ他ノ部分ノ究極
ノ窮乏化ヲ意味シ又他諸外國ノ利益追放ヲ意味
スルモデアリ。

社會的ニ個人的自由ノ破壞ト戰ニ敗レタ人々ヲ劣等國
民ノ地位ニ追突キ落スコトヲ意味スルモデアリ。

「一國ガ世界人口ノ半分近クノ人類ヲ征服シ殘酷ニ搾取
ルト云フ斯ル計畫ハ何處ニ在ラト問ハズ總テ國家ニ取
テ大イニ注目スベキ事柄ナリ重大且關係深キ事柄ナ
ルコトヲ總テ人々ニ明カニスベキデアリ。

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「日本が昨今取つて来た行動を拘らず米國政府は日本政府に對して米國及其他の國家間ニ於ケル正當ナル平和的手段ヲ信ズル諸國ト間ニ友好關係ヲ開始スルヲ日本ニ假して最善ノ利益ヲ見トスルヲ網得キル爲め力ヲ盡キタデラル。我が政府ハ如何ナル時トイヘドモ脅迫ヲシタズハナカッタ。

外交關係ニ

P 五三五頁

三九頁及三三〇頁